


Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

What is needed is some behavioural management/ financial disincentives as we can't just rely on regulation and law enforcement to deal with the unsafe use of electric mobility devices. Ultimately, when the behaviour of users on these devices results in an accident and injury, its the tax payer who pay for the consequences when it comes to covering the cost of medical care due to our universal health care system. In my view, if you have been found to using these devices in an unsafe way (without speed limiters, at night/ no lights, no helmet, on public roads - what ever is defined as behaviours/ use as not acceptable), medical care should not be freely available. For example, perhaps a financial cost is imposed to cover the cost of medical care in these situations, either in full or a co-payment. I think something like this is needed for parents, in particularly, to seriously reconsider whether they are willing to provide these devices to their children as it would come with potential financial implications based on their children's behaviours. For certain adult users also, my observation is that it is a reflection of lower social-economic backgrounds that result in use of modified devices on public roads (and without helmets at time) as unfortunately they are unlikely to be in financial position to own private vehicles. Again, something is needed for the adults to reconsider their behaviour and use of these devices. Financial disincentives would go a long way to managing the behaviours of the predominate users in unsafe situations, amongst other regulation and law enforcement measures. One measure that could go a long way, is the immediate confiscation of devices been used in a safe/ unacceptable way and then destroyed/ recycled. Something for future consumers/ parents to think about before purchasing these devices, and removes the source of the problem for persistent offenders.